

FISCAL NOTE

HB 379 – SB 2021

February 20, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Tennessee Ethics Commission to be subject to the open meetings and public records statutes, with limited exceptions; and requires all records of the Commission to be available for free public inspection and copying.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

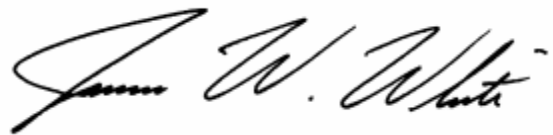
Increase State Expenditures - \$10,000

Assumptions:

- In 2007, the Commission estimates the collection of 6,200 three and four page disclosure of interest reports from local and state officials.
- Based on records received by similar agencies as well as the number of requests received by the Commission since its inception on October 1, 2006, requiring copies to be provided free of charge is estimated to increase state expenditures to the Commission by \$10,000 per year (approximately 40,000 copies at an average cost of 25 cents per page cost for ink, paper, staff time, and copier maintenance).
- The Commission expects to institute electronic filing for all filers in 2008 so that disclosure statements would go directly to the internet for posting.
- In addition, the Commission is considering Records Rules parallel to other state agencies whereby the public is charged 25 cents per page for copying and an appropriate fee for staff time and resources.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director